

Italian overpowered after hijacking

ROME (R) — Police overpowered a 67-year-old Sicilian pensioner on Monday after he held 160 people hostage on a plane at Rome airport armed with a plastic bag containing what may have been a rudimentary explosive device. Airport police chief Mario Esposito said the hijacker, Giuseppe Cizio, had been lured onto the ground to meet what he thought was a delegation of airport officials and reporters but who were in fact police officers. "A police commander, having offered to help the hijacker with documents which were weighing him down, overpowered him and prevented him from detonating the rudimentary device with his thumb," Mr. Esposito said. Mr. Cizio's plastic bag was found to contain a bizarre mixture of plasticine, gunpowder from fireworks, aluminium filings, a flat 4.5 volt battery, a shotgun cartridge and a lamp switch. Mr. Cizio held the 154 passengers and six crew for more than two hours after the scheduled flight by a DC-9 aircraft of the domestic carrier Meridiana arrived at Rome's Fiumicino airport from Palermo. He had asked to speak to the press and police officials, airport and the justice ministry to publicise the persecution he claimed to have suffered from the courts.

Volume 18 Number 5567

AMMAN TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1994, SHAWWAL 10, 1414

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جordan Times ناشر سیاسی تحریر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية الرأي

U.S. to send Patriots to S. Korea

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton said Monday that the United States would send Patriot missiles to South Korea as a "purely defensive" measure because of the increasingly tense relationship with North Korea. Mr. Clinton spoke shortly after the South Korean government agreed at an emergency national security meeting to deploy the air defense missiles and to revise plans for military exercises with the United States (see page 8). "We have agreed that it is our national interest and in the interest of the security of the people of South Korea and the security of our armed forces there to send Patriot missiles at this time and we are going to do that," Mr. Clinton told reporters as he arrived in Florida for a health care meeting. Mr. Clinton described the deployment as "purely defensive in nature." He said the American commander in South Korea had requested the Patriots as part of a "continued modernisation of our armed forces." North Korea has threatened to pull out of an international nuclear control treaty over the issue of international inspections of its nuclear facilities.

King, Qaboos review Arab ties, Yemen and peace

SALALAH, Oman (Agencies)

— His Majesty King Hussein and Sultan Qaboos Ben Saeed Monday held a round of talks shortly after King Hussein's arrival on a three-day visit and exchanged views on Arab and international issues as well as bilateral relations.

King Hussein and Sultan Qaboos also held a closed-door meeting.

Upon his arrival, King Hussein was sworn in as Regent before King Hussein's departure.

The King's visit to Oman and Qatar comes two weeks after Saudi Arabia indicated it was not yet ready to improve relations and help pave the way for broader pan-Arab reconciliation.

King Hussein returned from Saudi Arabia after performing a minor pilgrimage but failing to meet King Fahd to thaw icy ties.

Jordanian and Qatari officials termed as "normal" the King's visit to Doha, his first since the Gulf crisis, sparked by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990, harmed bilateral relations.

It comes at the invitation of Qatar's ruler, Sheikh Khalifa Ben Hamad Al Thani, and follows a spate of top-level visits that helped restore ties to their pre-crisis level of

strength.

"We attach great importance to King Hussein's visit and hope it will further consolidate brotherly ties in the political, economic and trade fields and help restore Arab solidarity," Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Hamad Ben Jassim Al Thani told Jordan Television Sunday.

"We in Qatar are seeking along with our brothers in Jordan and other Arab countries to revive solidarity to a minimum acceptable level ... the present status quo is only serving the enemies of the Arab Nation."

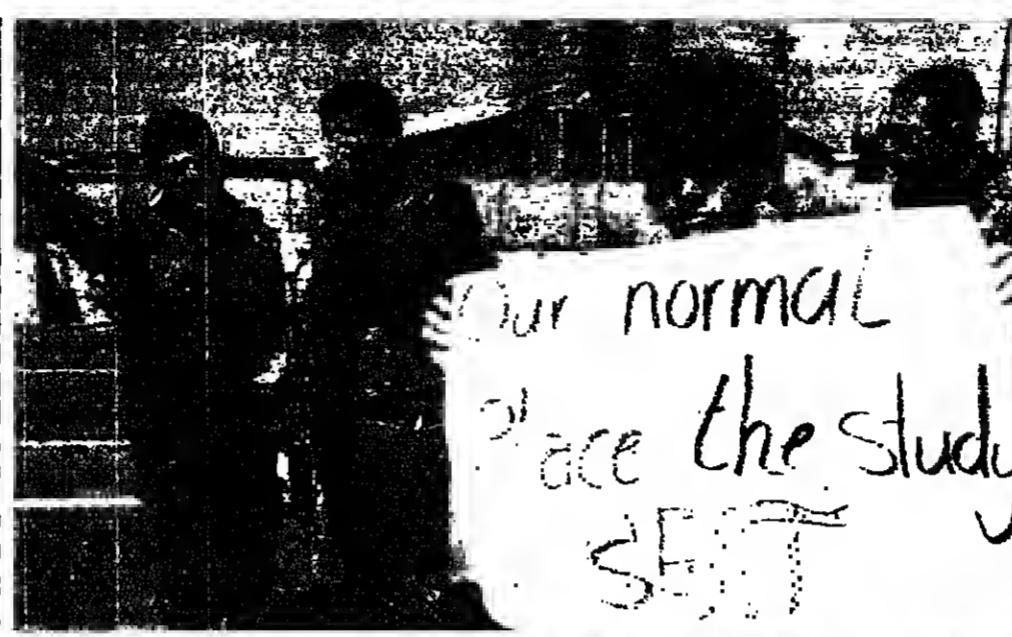
Jordanian officials said King Hussein and Sultan Qaboos would evaluate joint efforts to end a nine-month-old crisis threatening to tear Yemen apart to determine whether they should carry on their attempts.

Both countries are members in a military commission seeking to disengage the armies of North and South Yemen which have not merged since the 1990 unity between the two halves.

Yemen's bickering leaders signed a reconciliation accord in Amman last month, but the pact has failed to resolve the crisis.

King Hussein is accompanied on the visit by an official delegation comprising their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein and Prince Hamzah Ben Al Hussein, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, advisors Marwan Al Qassem, Khaled Al Karaki and Izzeddin Al Khatib Al Tamimi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Tal Al Hassan, Royal Court Imam Ahmad Helayel and other senior officials.

King Hussein, who will also visit Qatar on Wednesday, was



Bank so that Palestinians could attend classes (AFP photo)

Israeli troops kill blind Gazan; Rabin knew of Hebron tension

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies)

— A blind Palestinian university student died Monday from gunshot wounds he sustained in a gunfight between Israeli troops and Palestinians, hospital officials said.

Also Monday, three Palestinian boys were seriously wounded in clashes with Israeli soldiers in the West Bank, hospital officials and U.N. personnel said.

Ahmad Aleiwa was in a taxi on his way to class at Gaza City's Islamic University when he was hit in the head by a crossfire during a clash between soldiers and Palestinians on Sunday. He died of his wounds Monday, officials at Soroka Hospital in Beersheba said.

There have been almost daily clashes between youths and the army in the occupied territories since Feb. 25, when an Israeli settler shot dead dozens of Palestinian worshippers in a Hebron mosque.

Monday's death raised the number of Palestinians killed since the massacre to 68 Palestinians. Two Israelis have also died in the violence.

In Beit Jalla, Israeli troops shot and wounded three Palestinian students.

Salim Zeidan, secretary of the Hope Secondary School, said he saw a commotion outside before classes were to start in which soldiers shot live ammunition in the air. Students rushed into the school.

"Then either one or two snipers shot directly at the school's main (glass) door," he said.

About 15 rounds were fired, breaking windows and wounding three students," Mr. Zeidan said.

Headmaster Solomon Nour said he took the three — a girl aged 16 and two boys aged 15 and 17 — to hospital for treatment of light wounds from rubber bullets.

Probe continues

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin learned about provocations against Muslims in Hebron last October and

(Continued on page 10)

58-year-old man said to confess to sodomising and killing 8-year-old

By Rana Husseini
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A 58-year-old man confessed to the brutal murder of an eight-year-old boy after a sexual assault, Zarqa police announced Monday.

Brigadier-General Abdul Kader Ouran, director of Zarqa police, identified the man as M.A.T., a truck driver, and said he had confessed to murdering the boy after sodomising him.

The man was married five times, divorced one of his wives, and deserted two, Brig. Ouran told a press conference.

(Continued on page 10)

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area, 30 kilometres from Zarqa, and raped him, police said, quoting his confession.

The boy started bleeding and the suspect said he tried to stop the bleeding but failed. The suspect said he had no other choice but to kill the boy to hide his crime, the police said.

The suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

The child, the only son of the family, was reported missing on March 13 after he failed to return home after playing with his friends near his house.

The mother of the child told the Jordan Times that the suspect, "Abu Ziad" was

the suspect said he se-

vered the head of the boy and other parts of his body by using a sharp weapon.

Lo'i's decomposing body was found dumped near a pile of stones in Al Quonieh area on March 15, two days after he was killed.

Amnesty gives mixed review

(Continued from page 1) old one, and the Press and Publications Law.

Although AI said that the new Defence Law is an improvement over the previous one, it criticised a number of articles, such as Article 4, which gives the prime minister the authority to "place restrictions on people's freedom of assembly, movement and residence, and arrest and detain suspects or those endangering national security and public order."

While the organisation noted that Article 8 allows those subjected to administrative detention to appeal against detention before the high court of justice and to rule on the appeal promptly, it said it was concerned that the law "still provides for administrative detention without charge or trial of security suspects and sets no time limits on the duration of detention orders."

The organisation also expressed concern over "limitations in the Press and Publications Law that curb freedom of expression and opinion, such as what could be published, having to be a member of the Jordan Press Association to practise journalism, the ban on publishing details of ongoing security trials and the disclosure of confidential sources." In the course of criminal proceedings in order to protect state security, prevent a crime or achieve justice," (see separate story).

AI reported that three journalists from the left-wing Al Ahali weekly, including its Chief Editor Jamil Nimri, were currently on trial for defaming the State Security Court and defaming Parliament.

"AI is concerned that current Jordanian legislation may be used to restrict the right to freedom of opinion and expression as guaranteed by Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and lead to the imprisonment of prisoners of conscience," the report added.

The organisation urged Jordan to review all legislation regarding freedom of news media and should be "closely monitored to prevent the imprisonment of prisoners of conscience," the report added.

The former official, who spoke to the Jordan Times, disagreed with AI's proposals to amend any legislation at this time, contending that Jordanians, be they citizens, officials or parliamentarians, still "don't understand democracy 100 per cent."

"I agree that some of these laws have gaps," the former official said. "But if these laws are reopened now for amendments, they would be amended to the worse, since there are strong elements who want to curb the freedoms available in the current legislation."

He insisted that the existing laws were sufficient for the time being, and needed to be "absorbed" before attempting to improve them several years from now.

"The problem is not the laws,

but the practice, and more time has to be given to these laws to be properly implemented first," the source added.

Meanwhile, AI also reported that while it received fewer allegations than previously of torture and ill-treatment at the GID, detainees have occasionally complained of being subjected to "generalised beatings and floggings (beatings on the soles of the feet)," during detention.

The organisation expressed concern over prolonged incommunicado detentions at the GID with no access to lawyers, doctors or their choice of judges until the interrogation is finished, and sometimes, a confession is taken.

Reporting that over 800 detainees have been held at the GID since January 1992 on security grounds, AI urged Jordan to abide by Article 12 of the convention against torture to "conduct a prompt and impartial investigation of complaints of torture applied to all competent authorities, including prosecutors and courts."

AI, however, welcomed the existence of orders issued to all military personnel by former commander of the Armed Forces and current chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shakher forbidding the use of violence against prisoners. It also welcomed the regular visits by the International Red Cross twice a month to the GID prison, as well as the introduction of regular medical examinations for detainees in custody.

But the organisation insisted that these moves were insufficient and insisted on allowing prisoners access to lawyers, judges and doctors of their choice.

AI recommended that fuller protection of detainees against torture and ill-treatment, as well as protection of authorities against false accusations or such abuse, would be the "separation of the security functions of custody and interrogation."

The agency responsible for the custody of detainees should therefore be different from the GID, which is engaged in interrogating them," AI stressed. "At the very least, the supervision of the GID detention centre should be carried out effectively by officials other than the GID officers themselves."

A senior official, however, said recently that the Cabinet has recently formed a special committee, after a parliamentary inquiry on the treatment of prisoners and detainees, to pay regular visits to prison facilities, including the GID.

A founding member of the Centre for Studies on Freedom, Democracy and Human Rights in the Arab World told the Jordan Times that the centre will act as a protector of citizens, legal and human rights.

The centre, whose laws are currently being studied by the legislative council, will monitor and investigate the treatment of prisoners and detainees," the member said. "It will also refer cases to the prosecution against anyone responsible for alleged torture

against prisoners, ensure prompt access to lawyers and independent doctors, and to monitor the activities of different security apparatus to ensure that the legal and human rights of individuals are protected."

The human rights activists also insisted that non-governmental organisations should be active in monitoring the treatment of prisoners and detainees.

Although AI welcomed the right of appeal at the Court of Cassation for anyone convicted by the State Security Court, it criticised the military court because it is appointed by the executive authority.

Although the amended 1993 version of the State Security Law allows the prime minister to establish such courts "in special circumstances required by the public interest," composed of three civilian and/or military judges, AI said that all trials of political and political-violence related cases have been conducted in courts composed of three military judges.

At called for the abolishment of the State Security Court and all "exceptional" courts to allow the ordinary judiciary to "recover fully criminal jurisdiction."

"Without questioning the qualifications or the personal integrity of any military judge, AI believes that a court appointed by the executive authorities on an ad hoc basis cannot appear to provide the same guarantees of independence and impartiality provided by the regular courts," the organisation said.

Among the 10 recommendations AI has listed as "priorities for urgent reform," the organisation urged Jordanian authorities to provide effective protection for asylum seekers and not to expel them to a country where they would risk human rights violations.

AI reported that at least four detainees were expelled from Jordan in 1993 to countries which were expected to persecute them. One Palestinian with a Jordanian passport was reportedly handed over to the Israeli authorities at the King Hussein Bridge last July and was allegedly tortured while in Israeli custody, AI said, adding that he was currently on trial for involvement in bomb attacks in Israel in 1985 attributed to the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The then information minister, Maan Abu Nowar, denied at that time that such a deportation had taken place.

AI also reported that three Sudanese Christians were expelled and returned to Khartoum last November after leaving their country due to the civil war. Their fate is unknown.

The human rights activist said that the Jordanian Constitution clearly stipulates that "no Jordanian citizen can be deported," and that those given political asylum will not be extradited because of their political beliefs or for defending freedom.

The centre, whose laws are currently being studied by the legislative council, will monitor and investigate the treatment of prisoners and detainees," the member said. "It will also refer cases to the prosecution against anyone responsible for alleged torture

against the state."

The government's report said that freedom of opinion is safeguarded under the terms of legislation in force and described the Press and Publications Law as in keeping with the present stage of democratisation and freedom of political activity.

The United States Department's annual human rights report covering 1993 pointed out that while the Constitution provides for freedom of speech and the press, the government continues to exercise limited censorship on the local media by pressuring news editors to change or omit coverage that the government finds embarrassing or contrary to what it perceives to be Jordan's interests.

The report also criticised the list of a series of restrictions imposed on journalists: "The law does not clearly define the nature of the information it classifies in the various categories. It does not recognise the principle of the public's right to know and prohibits publication of information which could harm the reputation of public officials, the public morale, or the

honour of the state."

The government's report said: "The media consciously endeavour to combat all forms of racial discrimination and carry full reports on the repression, torture, denial of legitimate rights and other inhuman practices to which persecuted minorities and peoples are subjected anywhere in the world."

Article 19's report said: "Since the PPL came into force journalists have been detained and charged with offences related to their writing. Newspaper editors have been harassed by the (former) minister of information and the (former) director of the Press and Publications Department through telephone calls, warning letters and threats of legal action."

The report also criticised the list of a series of restrictions imposed on journalists: "The law also severely curtails the range of topics which journalists or writers may discuss and severely punishes infringements," it said.

We hope that the government will present an amended draft law of the press and publications to be in conformity with international conventions and treaties that call for the protection of freedom of expression," Dr. Swiss said.

In its conclusion, Article 19's report pointed to the restrictions imposed on the right to publish and the right of access to information.

"The law also severely curtails the range of topics which journalists or writers may discuss and severely punishes infringements," it said.

We hope that the government will present an amended draft law of the press and publications to be in conformity with international conventions and treaties that call for the protection of freedom of expression," Dr. Swiss said.

On the restrictions imposed on journalists, Article 19's report criticised PPL's code of honour as

Israeli bombing kills schoolgirl after 2 soldiers slain in Lebanon

NABATIYEH (Agencies) — Israeli artillery pounded southern Lebanon Monday, showering a school bus with shrapnel that killed a 12-year-old girl and wounded 500, most of them Lebanese.

The shelling was in retaliation for resistance bombings earlier in the day that killed two Israeli soldiers and two allied militiamen.

In addition to the schoolchildren, three other civilians were wounded in the Israeli response to the bombings, which also wounded five pro-Israeli militiamen. The bombings were claimed by the Hezbollah.

The market town of Nabatiyeh and surrounding villages took the brunt of the Israeli bombardment and, for the first time in eight months, the port city of Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, was hit.

It was the most widespread

Israeli bombardment since a week-long ground, air and naval blitz of South Lebanon in July that killed 147 people and injured 500, most of them Lebanese.

The two Israeli soldiers were killed in a roadside bomb explosion against an armour patrol between the villages of Aishiyeh and Rihan at the eastern sector of an Israeli border enclave.

A militiaman of the pro-Moslem South Lebanon Army (SLA) was killed in another roadside bomb blast near the village of Arab Salim in the central sector of the enclave. The schoolgirl was killed when one of about 70 heavy artillery shells landed near a school bus in Nabatiyeh.

The sources said 22 other schoolchildren, most aged between four and 10, were wounded. A civilian man was also wounded in the shelling of Nabatiyeh.

A Reuter photographer said he saw eight wounded children at the town's hospital.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bombs kill 1, wound 12 in Turkey

ISTANBUL (R) — Bomb blasts ripped through the offices of a Muslim youth organisation and four other sites in Istanbul in pre-election violence, killing one person and wounding 12, police said on Monday. Unidentified assailants hurled a bomb at the offices of the pro-Muslim National Youth Foundation in suburban Pendik on Sunday night, killing one person and wounding 12. The attackers escaped. Bomb blasts also rocked offices of the pro-Muslim Welfare Party in suburban Esenler on Monday. No one was injured and there was minor damage. A bomb explosion shook the offices of a state insurance company in Sisli district on Sunday night, shattering windows and damaging furniture but no one was hurt. No one claimed responsibility for the attacks. Police arrested two people for tossing fire bombs at a municipal department store in the district of Besiktas on Monday. No one was injured. It wasn't immediately clear if the assailants were affiliated with any political group. Turkey holds nationwide municipal elections on March 27. The election campaign so far has been marred with attacks on several party offices and candidates.

2 dead in tanker fire in Arabian Sea

LONDON (R) — Two people were killed and 18 missing on Monday after an explosion and fire engulfed a tanker in the Arabian Sea between Oman and Bombay, Lloyds Shipping Service reported. Lloyds, monitored in London, said 17 people had been rescued alive, nine with burns, from the Liberian-owned tanker Stolidi. The vessel's superstructure had burnt out but the cargo was believed to be intact. Lloyds said the 138,765-tonne tanker was discovered on Monday morning by Liberian-registered liquefied gas tanker Hilli after an explosion sometime on Sunday. Two people had been found dead and 18 were missing. The Stolidi was still afloat and the fire thought to have died down, it said. A rescue operation including several vessels with medical teams were on their way to the scene. Lloyds did not say what cargo the stricken ship was carrying.

19 Pakistanis killed in UAE crash

ABU DHABI (AP) — Nineteen Pakistani workers were killed when their minibus collided with a fertiliser-laden truck on a foggy highway Sunday, officials and diplomats said. The crash occurred on the road between Abu Dhabi and Al Ain, a city in Abu Dhabi emirate. The bus driver was killed, while the driver of the truck survived and was hospitalised in intensive care, officials said. Zayed Saqr Hamdan, director of the Abu Dhabi traffic and licensing department, blamed the accident on reckless driving.

Tunis turns away Israeli delegates' jet

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel state television said on Sunday Tunisian authorities turned away an aircraft carrying Israeli delegates to a meeting with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials in Tunis. The Israeli executive plane was diverted to Sicily, where the delegates boarded a U.S. military jet for the flight to Tunis, the television said in an unsourced report. Israeli foreign ministry spokesman Uri Palti said he knew nothing about the reported diversion. "Tunisian officials did not allow the small Israeli plane carrying the delegates to land in Tunis and it was forced to land in Fontanaria-Rossa airport in Sicily," the television said. It gave no details of why the Israeli aircraft was turned away.

France gives \$3.45m in aid to Djibouti

DJIBOUTI (R) — France has given 20 million francs (\$3.45 million) in emergency aid to its former Red Sea colony of Djibouti drained by a two-year-old war with northern rebels. French Minister for Cooperation Michel Roussin announced the emergency allocation in Djibouti on Saturday and promised a substantial amount of bumanitarian aid because of drought. "There is a genuine willingness to move towards national reconciliation," Mr. Roussin said in a brief reference to the war with the rebel Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy (FRUD). FRUD launched an Afar rebellion against the predominantly ethnic Somali government in Djibouti in late 1991. The tiny state at the entrance to the Red Sea gained independence from France in 1977. Mr. Roussin said France was willing if requested to mediate closer conflictive viewpoints and would assist efforts to reduce the size of the Djibouti army, swollen to 15,000 because of the rebellion in the north compared with 5,000 in peacetime. Mr. Roussin, the first French minister in four years to attend a meeting of a joint commission to review cooperation, signed an agreement for technical assistance for the port of Djibouti.

Israeli leaders refuse to meet Dalai Lama

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Dalai Lama made his first visit to Israel Sunday and was snubbed by the country's leaders, who, according to media reports, refused to meet him out of fear of angering China.

The exiled Tibetan leader, spiritual guide for millions of Buddhists, is spending five days in the country as guest of the Israeli Society for the Protection of Nature (PLO).

Asked by an Israeli reporter how he felt about not being received by a single leader, the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize laureate said: "It's no problem. I always make visits of this kind of nature, purely spiritual in nature."

Explicit AIDS awareness campaigns found in the West are unknown in the Middle East, where tradition restricts public discussion of sexual matters. But in recent years

people all over the world are willing to listen to candid messages once they understand that their lives, or the lives of their children, are at stake."

AIDS is a combination of illnesses which develop after HIV weakness a person's defences against disease. There is no known cure or vaccine for the disease which kills 100,000 people worldwide each year.

"Getting clear information to people requires a special effort in the case of population groups with lower literacy, such as women, and those with limited access to information, such as young people," Mr. Merson said.

Perhaps the most important preventative measure is to make sure that people have the weapons to control their lives — for example, the power to refuse sex. Again, women and young people tend to have the least power to begin with and will require the most help."

Mr. Merson, executive director of the WHO's global programme on AIDS, said decision makers "have to understand that information about AIDS is a matter of life or death."

Like many other states in the region, Kuwait tests all foreigners arriving to take up jobs in any public forum. But we have learned from experience that

for Israel.

Speaking partly in English, the Nobel laureate said that his people sought to "learn many things from the Jewish people, especially in confronting difficult times."

It is unusual for the Jewish state to snub an international figure of the Dalai Lama's stature, particularly religious leaders.

But diplomatic ties with China, forged for the first time only in 1992, are considered of utmost importance, given Beijing's clout with the Arab World, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Asked by an Israeli reporter how he felt about not being received by a single leader, the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize laureate said: "It's no problem. I always make visits of this kind of nature, purely spiritual in nature."

We hope that the government will present an amended draft law of the press and publications to be in conformity with international conventions and treaties that call for the protection of freedom of expression," Dr. Swiss said.

In its conclusion, Article 19's report pointed to the restrictions imposed on the right to publish and the right of access to information.

"The law also severely curtails the range of topics which journalists or writers may discuss and severely punishes infringements," it said.

We hope that the government will present an amended draft law of the press and publications to be in conformity with international conventions and treaties that call for the protection of freedom of expression," Dr. Swiss said.

On the restrictions imposed on journalists, Article 19's report criticised PPL's code of honour as

stipulated by its Article 9. "The proposed code is worth nothing because it gives a further insight into the government's view of the role of the media," it said.

The government's report said that freedom of opinion is safeguarded under the terms of legislation in force and described the Press and Publications Law as in keeping with the present stage of democratisation and freedom of political activity.

The United States Department's annual human rights report covering 1993 pointed out that while the Constitution provides for freedom of speech and the press, the government continues to exercise limited censorship on the local media by pressuring news editors to change or omit coverage that the government finds embarrassing or contrary to what it perceives to be Jordan's interests.

Asked by an Israeli reporter how he felt about not being received by a single leader, the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize laureate said: "It's no problem. I always make visits of this kind of nature, purely spiritual in nature."

We hope that the government will present an amended draft law of the press and publications to be in conformity with international conventions and treaties that call for the protection of freedom of expression," Dr. Swiss said.

In its conclusion, Article 19's report pointed to the restrictions imposed on the right to publish and the right of access to information.

"The law also severely curtails the range of topics which journalists or writers may discuss and severely punishes infringements," it said.

We hope that the government will present an amended draft law of the press and publications to be in conformity with international conventions and treaties that call for the protection of freedom of expression," Dr. Swiss said.

BRIEFING ON QAF WORK: Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday receives at her office a delegation of wives of U.S. senators which arrived in Amman Sunday on a four-day visit to Jordan. Princess Basma briefed members of the delegation on the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development's (QAF) goals, programmes and activities in offering services to children and women and its role in rural development. The group was also briefed on QAF's methods in offering services to targeted sectors of the society, particularly in training and preparing women to undertake an active role in the society. The delegation then visited an exhibition of rugs and other handicrafts held at QAF. The exhibition includes items produced by QAF's projects in Amman, Madaba and Ma'an. During the visit, the delegation, which arrived at an invitation by Princess Basma, will be introduced to Jordanian life and its main economic and social development issues. The delegation's itinerary includes visits to several projects established by QAF in needy urban areas across the country. In line with the interests of the delegation, a focus of these visits will be on QAF's educational and income-generating projects for women which include rug-weaving, food-processing, rural markets and revival of ancient pottery (Petra photo)



Mideast specialist cautions Arabs on Clinton administration

By Ian Atalla
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Arabs should move quickly to resume the peace negotiations with Israel and hold them on course, said L. Carl Brown, a noted U.S. academic specialist on Middle Eastern affairs. But, he said, the Arabs should not be so willing to place their trust in the current U.S. government as a competent and trustworthy broker for the peace talks.

He told his audience Monday at the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan and earlier at Al Urdun Al Jadid Research Centre that the notion that the different stages of the peace process should be initiated by U.S. government cues "is an extremely dangerous one."

"The Clinton administration is not a passive one," he told the Jordan Times in a brief interview.

"But it is domestically oriented and doesn't have the background and experience that the Bush administration had in foreign policy. It is also obviously pro-Israel."

"It is to the advantage of all Middle East parties for the Clinton administration to be

less than centrally involved in the peace talks. Not this administration, nor any other U.S. presidency, should play so prominent a role in them."

He added, "don't count on the U.S. government lining up in the future on the side of a Palestinian state."

Addressing Arab fears that the U.S. absences in the U.N. Security Council vote on the Hebron massacre resolution signalled a change in its position on the status of East Jerusalem, he said he was relatively sure that no such change had occurred, but "if the Arabs insist on nailing down the U.S. position at this time, that would backfire. And a change might be inadvertently brought about."

"I want to stress the importance of the bilateral negotiations," Dr. Brown continued. "It is vital that they be continued and that they succeed. Both sides must realise the price of failure will be tremendous — the Labour Party would summarily lose the elections, and the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) would in all likelihood vanish as a political movement. Both sides are obliged to be allies."

"If Rabin really does not

want to give up the occupied territories, as is starting to appear, then the Palestinians should use the peace process to expose him. Get Rabin on the train and make sure the train is moving too fast for him to drop off."

He said that in his view, one reason for the agonisingly slow pace of the negotiations was that in the Middle East, negotiators are often hesitant to make even token unilateral concessions to the other side, for fear that "this would be taken as a sign of weakness."

"But because of this mentality, both sides have gotten bogged down in the details, even though they face disaster because of this. The hard-liners are gaining, and we are losing time."

Dr. Brown told the Jordan Times that he believed that "the Palestinians should make the most of accepting their campaign as that of a weaker party striving towards decolonisation, and not waste their time fretting over the fact that they are the weaker side."

On this point, he reminded his audience that the Algerians, who had fought to end French rule in the 1950s and 1960s, had been at the time in

a similar position to today's Palestinians. They had never defeated the French military or logically and never would have actually succeeded in doing so, but through their focused and concentrated effort over many years, they had finally forced the French to relinquish their grip on Algeria.

Mr. Brown explained that the U.S.'s general pro-Zionist tilt "is not so much out of any particular sentiment against the Arabs, but an ignorance of that aspect."

"There is a tendency in the Arab World to see a conspiratorial view of how the Zionists lobby in America, AIPAC (America-Israel Political Committee), works."

"But the U.S. is a mix of ethnic backgrounds, and just as Greek and Armenian Americans have an orientation towards activism in Old World affairs," so also do Jewish Americans who support Zionism, he said.

"Lobbyism is an essential factor of democracy. But the downside is that a well-organised group focused on a single issue, when not counter-balanced by a similar group of equal strength," can have a disproportionate impact on a democratic coun-

try's foreign policy in that area, he said.

As to how to deal with AIPAC's influence, Dr. Brown said that "the Arabs should not be so sensitive to congressional resolutions if they mean nothing on the ground. Such things should not distract and divert Arab attention."

"Know how to play to the fears, hopes and prejudices of the other side and the public, and don't shoot yourself in the foot with what you say. The Israelis know how to play to the U.S. public. And the Arabs all too often do not

Dr. Brown, a historian and Professor Emeritus in Foreign Affairs at Princeton University has written or contributed to some 10 books, covering a diverse range of Middle Eastern issues. His publications include: *Tunisia: The Politics of Modernisation*; *International Politics in the Middle East: Old Rules, Dangerous Game: Centrestage; American Diplomacy since World War Two*; and, *The Continuing Ottoman Legacy in the Middle East and Southeast Europe*.

Dr. Brown is on a USIS (U.S. Information Service) sponsored tour of the region.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Regent visits Armed Forces H.Q.

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the Regent, Monday visited the Armed Forces General Headquarters where he was received by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Abdul Hafez Mirai Al Kaabneh and senior army officers. The Regent and Gen. Kaabneh discussed issues of concern to the armed forces. Prince Mohammad also congratulated the chairman on the 26th anniversary of Al Karamah Battle.

Jordan marks Karamah Battle anniversary

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Monday marked the 26th anniversary of Al Karamah Battle in which Jordanian land forces defeated a dawn attack launched by Israel in the central Jordan Valley area. On the occasion, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Abdul Hafez Mirai Al Kaabneh attended the Armed Forces celebration in Al Karamah town, where he laid a wreath at the martyr's monument. Gen. Kaabneh also met with delegations representing government and public institutions which arrived at Karamah to attend the celebrations. These delegations also laid wreaths at the monument. The celebration was attended by Balqa governor, Eid Al Qatameh, the chief of staff of the land forces, the assistant chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, senior army officers, government officials and citizens. Also marking the

anniversary, University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharaibeh Monday opened a photo exhibition entitled "Photos from Karamah and the Arabisation of the Jordanian Arab Army." The three-day exhibition includes photos depicting the development of the Armed Forces and the Arabisation of the army by His Majesty King Hussein in 1956. In addition, it includes photos of Al Karamah Battle, as well as photos depicting the humanitarian role played by the Jordanian Armed Forces through its participation in peace-keeping activities to various parts of the world.

New bloc formed at Lower House

AMMAN (Petra) — A new parliamentary bloc, "the Parliamentary Brotherhood Bloc," has been formed at the Lower House of Parliament, according to Deputy Tawfiq Kreishan. Mr. Kreishan said that the bloc, which in addition to him includes deputies Nader Thuheirat, Salem Al Zawaideh and Ali Al Shatti, aims to facilitate parliamentary work in a manner that would serve national interests. The bloc, he said, would support any other trend at the House in drafting legislation and taking resolutions, provided that they are beneficial to national interests. This bloc raises the number of parliamentary blocs to seven. The other six blocs are: the Democratic Parliamentary Coalition, the National Action Front, the Islamic Action Front, the National Jordanian Front, the Independent members, and the Independent Parliamentary Bloc.

Expert urges more effort by Mideast nations to cooperate in improving region's water budget

By Ian Atalla
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The nations of the Middle East must make greater efforts to cooperate together in developing and utilising their already limited water resources or face serious problems by the year 2000, said Murad Bino, the executive director of the Inter-Islamic Network on Water Resources Development and Management (INWRDAM).

"The basic common denominator of the Middle East countries is their lack of water resources," Mr. Bino said. "All of these countries will face serious water shortages within this decade, and this will be a limitation on the development of these countries."

"If dialogue and cooperation were improved between these countries, and trust established, the situations of all would be improved. There is a need for unified actions."

INWRDAM, a sub-body of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), under the administration of the Conference's Standing Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation (COMSTECH), was established with its headquarters in Amman in 1987.

It currently has eight member countries — Jordan, Egypt, Tunis, Turkey, Mali, Niger, Bangladesh and Pakis-

tan.

"We are currently working on bringing Syria, Sudan, and Palestine into INWRDAM as member countries to establish a dialogue between them and our other member countries in the region on their related water problems," Mr. Bino said.

"When water is in shortage it becomes a strategic resource — thus, the sensitivity of Middle Eastern countries in their willingness to give others information on their water resources."

"But these countries must realise that cooperation is inevitable when water resources are stretched across international boundaries. Water basins, lakes and rivers do not know or work in accordance with political borders and must be shared."

Mr. Bino said INWRDAM was created by the OIC "with the purpose of establishing a dialogue among its member countries" and thereby increase their coordination and cooperation in the field of water resources development and management, and to "identify the research and development components of improving the utilisation of the existing resources available in the region."

He saw two capacities where research and development applications could substantially increase Jordan's water budget (the yearly

amount of fresh water available for usage).

The first was additional recycling of used water.

"Jordan already uses water in two cycles — after its initial use, it is often re-treated and reused for irrigation. There can be an improvement if we go to a full three-stage cycle of first domestic and household, then industrial, and then agricultural usage of the same water," assuming proper re-treatment of the water after each usage.

As for INWRDAM itself, Mr. Bino said, "we are presently at the stage where we are still a relatively new organisation. On this basis, we are concentrating for now primarily on establishing a solid programme of a data network and quality services for our current member countries, in order to gain a credibility base" with the OIC countries as a whole.

Among INWRDAM's important activities for the future, Mr. Bino listed its efforts to expand and develop its data base on the water resources of OIC countries and a project to improve the quality and accuracy of the water data collected by its member countries, "as the current information is not always reliable and accurate."

INWRDAM is also compiling a standardised water information catalogue for its member countries and is working on training the middle management employees of its members who work in water resources management, he added.

levels where this water is located, he added.

"But the Jordanian government is seriously considering utilising this water as a resource, and if new techniques are developed, used and proved viable, then other countries can benefit from these methods as well."

As for INWRDAM itself, Mr. Bino said, "we are presently at the stage where we are still a relatively new organisation. On this basis, we are concentrating for now primarily on establishing a solid programme of a data network and quality services for our current member countries, in order to gain a credibility base" with the OIC countries as a whole.

Among INWRDAM's important activities for the future, Mr. Bino listed its efforts to expand and develop its data base on the water resources of OIC countries and a project to improve the quality and accuracy of the water data collected by its member countries, "as the current information is not always reliable and accurate."

INWRDAM is also compiling a standardised water information catalogue for its member countries and is working on training the middle management employees of its members who work in water resources management, he added.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

★ Exhibition of heritage (Jordanian fashions, wooden sculptures, fresh and dried flowers, and cards) at the University of Jordan.

★ Exhibition by Syrian artists Ahmad Manan Shamma, Khalid Almu and Ma'moud Kashlan at Ab-dan Art Gallery.

★ Exhibition of sculptures and drawings by Jordanian sculptor Sameh Tabah. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 54 Arab contemporary artists at Darat Al Funun of the Abd Al Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh (Tel. 643251/2).

★ Exhibition entitled "Writers Do Draw" by Jamil Naji, Ibrahim Nasrallah, and Farouq Wadi at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ Plastic art exhibition by Syrian artists Abdul Qader Azzouz and Aoun Al Droubi at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 695291).

★ Exhibition by artist Amer Mohammad Rashad entitled "A Thousand and One Nights" at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition by artist Iman Khalifeh and Hamed Rashad at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition by artist Shawkat Al Rubai' at the Orafa Art Gallery in Um Uthaima (Tel. 826932).

ABC WEEKLY NEWS

★ ABC Weekly News Highlights and the MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Center at 5:00 p.m.

LECTURES

★ Lecture on music by scholar Bassem Petros at Darat Al Funun of the Abd Al Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh at 6:00 p.m.

★ Lecture on the negotiations, peace process, and the latest developments in the Arab arena by Mr. Marwan Durdin at the Arab Youth Forum at 5:00 p.m.

Palestine council to hold applicant interviews soon

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestine Council for Economic Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR) is processing applications from experts in taxes, customs and financial administration and plans to conduct personal interviews late this month and early next month.

Jawad Naji, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) Economic Department in Amman, said there was a good response to advertisements in the past two months inviting applications from qualified candidates in the Arab World and elsewhere.

More than 95 per cent of all applicants are Palestinians and the rest were both Arabs and non-Arabs, Dr. Naji said, adding that the priority of the council was to select heads of departments who will then be given leeway to set up the departments and recruit their support staff.

The 13-member PECDAR was established in late 1993 as PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat as its head and Farouk Kadoumi, chief of the Political Department of the PLO, and Mohammad Zuhdi Nashashibi, head of the Economic Department of the PLO, as his two deputies.

He said the council had established a good rapport with the World Bank, which is coordinating the international effort to financially support Palestinian self-rule and develop the Palestinian economy.

Other members of the coun-

cil are: Ahmad Koreia (director-general), Hassan Abu Libdeh and Sari Nusseibeh (deputy directors-general), Sufian Al Sultan, Ibrahim Dikkeb, Nabil Qassis, Mohammad Sammouri, Khalil Al Hindi, Yousef Sayegh, Anton Zahlan and Nabil Sharif.

"The council is entrusted with devising a structure for economic development and administration for the occupied territories during the five-year Palestinian autonomy period envisaged in the Sept. 13 Israel-PLO accord.

It will also draw up plans for development projects in the occupied territories and act as a conduit for international assistance to support Palestinian self-rule as envisaged in the autonomy accord.

Dr. Naji rejected suggestions that pressure from donors, who have pledged \$2 billion in aid to the Palestinians, had prompted the council to look for talent outside the PLO. Reports have suggested that the donors were insisting that the council be administered by qualified economic experts rather than political appointees.

He said contacts were continuing between the council and the steering committee. The panel is meeting in Paris this week to review the progress of self-rule arrangements and review allocation of funds for specific projects.

Some of the donors have already allocated part of their pledges to various U.N. agencies already working in the occupied territories.

The interviews that the



HISTORY TEACHING REVIEWED: History scholars Monday participate in the first day of three-day seminars designed to launch greater cooperation among Arab universities in the teaching of history. Organised by the Association of Arab Universities (AAU)

in cooperation with the University of Jordan, Yarmouk and Mutah universities, the opening day was hosted at the University of Jordan. The second and third days will be hosted by Yarmouk and Mutah universities.

JTV to air Friday in-depth news hour

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Radio and Television Corporation (JTV) announced that every Friday beginning March 25 the half-hour Arabic "News at Eight" programme on Channel I will be extended to 60 minutes of news reports and analysis from Jordan and other sources.

On Channel II (the foreign

language channel), JTV will begin broadcasting a Jordanian drama series with subtitles in English plus other Jordanian-made programmes in an effort to encourage local productions and rely less on imported programmes.

"Hubub Al Reeh" (The Blowing Wind), the first drama series to be aired beginning April 1, depicts Palestine under the British mandate and the 1948 Arab-



GER

Excavations in south Jordan uncover the cave and monastery of Saint Lot, 'a righteous man'

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

This is the first of two articles on recent scholarly work in the Ghor Al Safi region along the southeastern shore of the Dead Sea. This first part looks at the excavations of the cave and monastery of St. Lot.

On a steep hillside overlooking the fertile plain of Ghor Al Safi along the southeastern shore of the Dead Sea, excavation and conservation work is continuing on one of the most exciting archaeological discoveries in Jordan in recent years — the Cave and Sanctuary of St. Lot.

The site was first reported by the Canadian scholar Burton MacDonald during his survey of the area in 1986, and in 1987 excavations started under the direction of the Greek-American scholar Konstantinos D. Politis, of the Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities at the British Museum in London. Four seasons of excavations have uncovered virtually the entire complex, revealing an important biblical-Byzantine site that promises to become an important stop on the touristic itinerary of modern Jordan.

Churches, tombs, mosques, and monasteries dedicated to St. Lot can be found in Madaba, Hebron, near Jerusalem and elsewhere in this region. From 16th and 17th century Europe, over 100 paintings and drawings have been identified depicting the story of Lot and his daughters. Most of these works of art are on display today in major art museums in Europe and North America.

The heart of the complex is the triple-apsed basilical church built in front of the cave. According to an inscription in its mosaic floor, the existing church dates from April 691 AD, when it was expanded into its present basilical plan. The earliest firm date is a mosaic inscription in the north aisle of the church from May 606 AD. The earliest church on the site was probably built in the 6th century, judging from the pottery finds, old mosaic cubes, and the reference to the church from the 6th century AD Madaba mosaic map. Like most other ancient churches in Jordan, this one continued in use into the Umayyad and early Abbasid periods. The April 691 AD inscription is evidence for this, as are the finds of Umayyad and early Abbasid pottery and glass.

The mosaics of the church are adorned with geometric, floral and animal depictions, with many of the red-leaf floral designs closely resembling Nabataean styles. This probably reflects the continuity of Nabataean art styles from the heartland of the Nabataean kingdom at Petra well into the early Islamic era. This continuity is also in line with the thin-ware ceramics and pottery lamps from Petra that were found at the site in 5th-6th century layers, and several Nabataean architectural pieces (notably two capitals and two entablatures with typical Nabataean pointed crenellations).

Two inscriptions on reused stone blocks had the name of Lot, which helps to confirm the identification of this church as a memorial to St. Lot. Some reused architectural pieces from an earlier 5th-6th century structure suggest that this earlier church was precisely the one depicted on the Madaba mosaic map.

The cave itself, located at the end of the north aisle of the basilica, is the most intriguing part of the complex. The large natural cave was entered through an opening that did not have a door, but that was flanked on both sides with capitals decorated with crenellations.

The biblical tales then recount that Lot's daughters, fearing they may never marry and bear children, plied Lot with liquor and cohabited with him in the cave, after which they conceived two children who gave rise to the Moabite and Ammonite people. The fantastic and rather derogatory nature of this story may be explained by its context: the Genesis account to the Bible were written by ancient Hebrews/Jews who were constantly fighting against the Ammonites and Moabites, and depicting the origins of their trans-Jordanian enemies to this manner may simply have been an extension of national competition into the sphere of literary religious texts. Ridiculing your enemies and their national origin, it seems, is a time-honored practice.

Lot is also associated with the Genesis account about a coalition of four kings from the north who invaded the region of Sodom and Gomorrah and the other Cities of the Plain and took Lot captive. Abraham travelled north and gave chase to the four kings, whom he defeated in battle north of Damascus, thereby rescuing his nephew Lot.

Lot emerged in the early Christian era as an important biblical figure, and the site of his stay in Safi has always been revered as a sacred holy site; until recently, though, its precise location had not been identified. Mr. Politis' excavations have now definitively associated the cave and monastery complex with the Lot story in Genesis.

The site comprises a cave, a church, a water reservoir, a monastery, and terraced agricultural fields, most of which were in use from the Byzantine to the early Abbasid periods (around the 5th to 8th centuries AD). Clearly, Mr. Politis said in a recent interview with the Jordan Times, the monastery became an important pilgrimage site in the Byzantine period, when the legend of St. Lot was venerated throughout this part of the Middle East.

The Lot legend is well represented in the region, both historically and in terms of sacred sites associated with his life and legend. There are numer-

ous references in the Koran to the prophet Lot ("Nabi Lot" [pronounced "Lote"], who is called a righteous man, e.g. "...to Lot also we gave wisdom and knowledge and we delivered him from the city which practised abominations. They were indeed a wicked and rebellious people. We admitted him to our mercy; surely he was of the righteous" (Al Anbiya', 73-74); also, "Allah cites as examples of disbelief the wife of Noah and the wife of Lot. They were married to two righteous servants of ours, but they acted disloyally towards them" (Al Tahrif, 9).

Churches, tombs, mosques, and monasteries dedicated to St. Lot can be found in Madaba, Hebron, near Jerusalem and elsewhere in this region. From 16th and 17th century Europe, over 100 paintings and drawings have been identified depicting the story of Lot and his daughters. Most of these works of art are on display today in major art museums in Europe and North America.

The heart of the complex is the triple-apsed basilical church built in front of the cave. According to an inscription in its mosaic floor, the existing church dates from April 691 AD, when it was expanded into its present basilical plan. The earliest firm date is a mosaic inscription in the north aisle of the church from May 606 AD. The earliest church on the site was probably built in the 6th century, judging from the pottery finds, old mosaic cubes, and the reference to the church from the 6th century AD Madaba mosaic map. Like most other ancient churches in Jordan, this one continued in use into the Umayyad and early Abbasid periods. The April 691 AD inscription is evidence for this, as are the finds of Umayyad and early Abbasid pottery and glass.

The mosaics of the church are adorned with geometric, floral and animal depictions, with many of the red-leaf floral designs closely resembling Nabataean styles. This probably reflects the continuity of Nabataean art styles from the heartland of the Nabataean kingdom at Petra well into the early Islamic era. This continuity is also in line with the thin-ware ceramics and pottery lamps from Petra that were found at the site in 5th-6th century layers, and several Nabataean architectural pieces (notably two capitals and two entablatures with typical Nabataean pointed crenellations).

Two inscriptions on reused stone blocks had the name of Lot, which helps to confirm the identification of this church as a memorial to St. Lot. Some reused architectural pieces from an earlier 5th-6th century structure suggest that this earlier church was precisely the one depicted on the Madaba mosaic map.

The cave itself, located at the end of the north aisle of the basilica, is the most intriguing part of the complex. The large natural cave was entered through an opening that did not have a door, but that was flanked on both sides with capitals decorated with crenellations.

The biblical tales then recount that Lot's daughters, fearing they may never marry and bear children, plied Lot with liquor and cohabited with him in the cave, after which they conceived two children who gave rise to the Moabite and Ammonite people. The fantastic and rather derogatory nature of this story may be explained by its context: the Genesis account to the Bible were written by ancient Hebrews/Jews who were constantly fighting against the Ammonites and Moabites, and depicting the origins of their trans-Jordanian enemies to this manner may simply have been an extension of national competition into the sphere of literary religious texts. Ridiculing your enemies and their national origin, it seems, is a time-honored practice.

Lot is also associated with the Genesis account about a coalition of four kings from the north who invaded the region of Sodom and Gomorrah and the other Cities of the Plain and took Lot captive. Abraham travelled north and gave chase to the four kings, whom he defeated in battle north of Damascus, thereby rescuing his nephew Lot.

Lot emerged in the early Christian era as an important biblical figure, and the site of his stay in Safi has always been revered as a sacred holy site; until recently, though, its precise location had not been identified. Mr. Politis' excavations have now definitively associated the cave and monastery complex with the Lot story in Genesis.

The site comprises a cave, a church, a water reservoir, a monastery, and terraced agricultural fields, most of which were in use from the Byzantine to the early Abbasid periods (around the 5th to 8th centuries AD). Clearly, Mr. Politis said in a recent interview with the Jordan Times, the monastery became an important pilgrimage site in the Byzantine period, when the legend of St. Lot was venerated throughout this part of the Middle East.

The Lot legend is well represented in the region, both historically and in terms of sacred sites associated with his life and legend. There are numer-

ous references in the Koran to the prophet Lot ("Nabi Lot" [pronounced "Lote"], who is called a righteous man, e.g. "...to Lot also we gave wisdom and knowledge and we delivered him from the city which practised abominations. They were indeed a wicked and rebellious people. We admitted him to our mercy; surely he was of the righteous" (Al Anbiya', 73-74); also, "Allah cites as examples of disbelief the wife of Noah and the wife of Lot. They were married to two righteous servants of ours, but they acted disloyally towards them" (Al Tahrif, 9).

The walls of the cave were plastered and had some Greek and Kufic graffiti, mostly the works of pilgrims asking for God's blessings. Pilgrims were probably told that the cave itself was the one where Lot stayed with his daughters after the fiery destruction of Sodom. The cave did not have any ecclesiastical facilities such as an altar, and thus it was probably not used as a chapel.

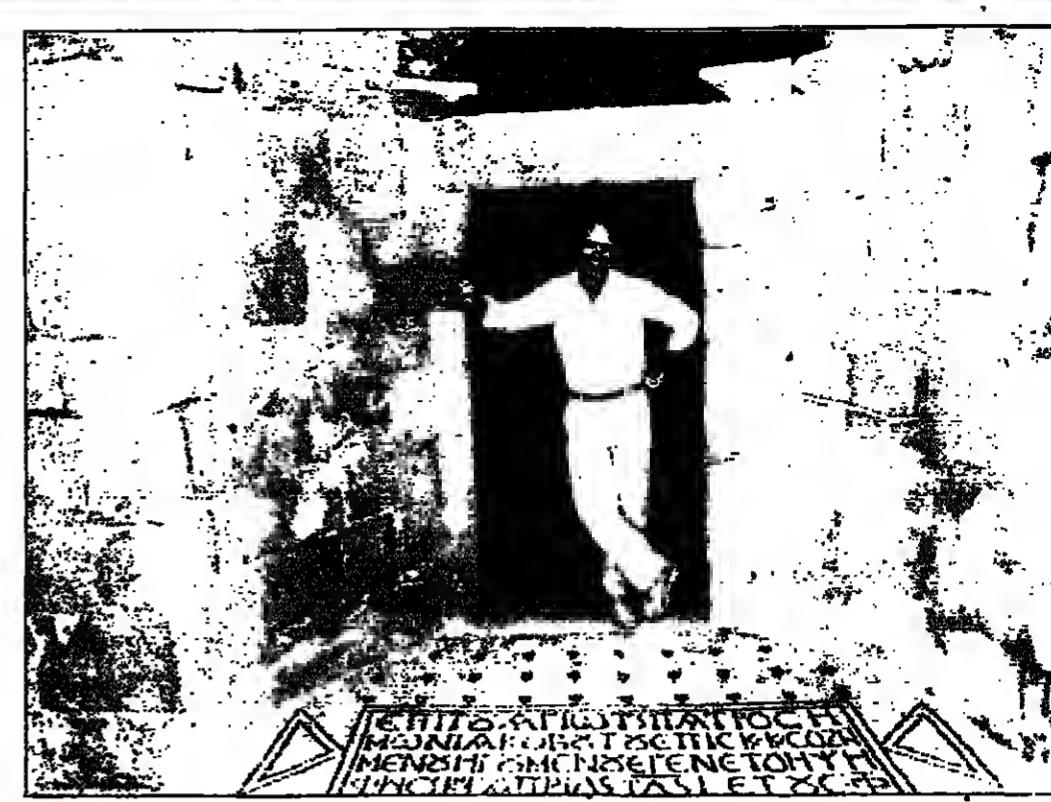
The excavations inside the cave produced many ceramic and glass lamps from the Byzantine and early Islamic periods. Below the mosaic floor were found earlier lamps typical of the 4th and 5th centuries AD. One lamp was decorated with the face of an old man, perhaps a portrait of Lot himself. Below this Byzantine level was discovered some early Roman fine pottery ware, perhaps indicating that the traditional regional association of this cave with a sacred spot started even before the Byzantine era.

The monastery included a large, seven-metre-deep, arched water reservoir covered with palm trunks and served by its own water catchment system. The reservoir was rebuilt

several rooms with benches and ovens and produced hundreds of pieces of green and brown glazed pottery shards, unique in the Middle East for this period. Below the floor of the kitchen was a communal tomb for the monks. Over 30 bodies have been identified in this tomb, including at least one black African, one woman and three infant children.

Five adjacent cyst graves that were also excavated contained the remains of a foetus, one newborn infant and three young children around one year of age. The analysis of these human remains will shed important new light on conditions in the Safi area in the Early Bronze and Byzantine periods, considering that so many other tombs have been robbed out in recent years and their contents lost to scholars. Mr. Politis is studying the hypothesis that there may have been a plague or epidemic in Zoar in the mid-6th century AD that was disastrous for the city of Zoar and for the nearby monastery.

In the late Byzantine period, such monasteries were important pilgrimage sites, and would have had to be self-sufficient in food, both to feed the residents and the visiting pilgrims. Evidence of meat



Dino Politis at the entrance to the cave (Photos and drawings by Dino Politis)

vegetarian and survived largely on bread and cereals. Monasticism was common in this region in the 6th century, and was often subsidised by the Byzantine state from its headquarters in Constantinople (modern Istanbul). St. Stephen of Mar Saba monastery, mentioned in his diary that he often visited Mt Nebo and the monastery of St. Lot during his trips east of the Jordan River.

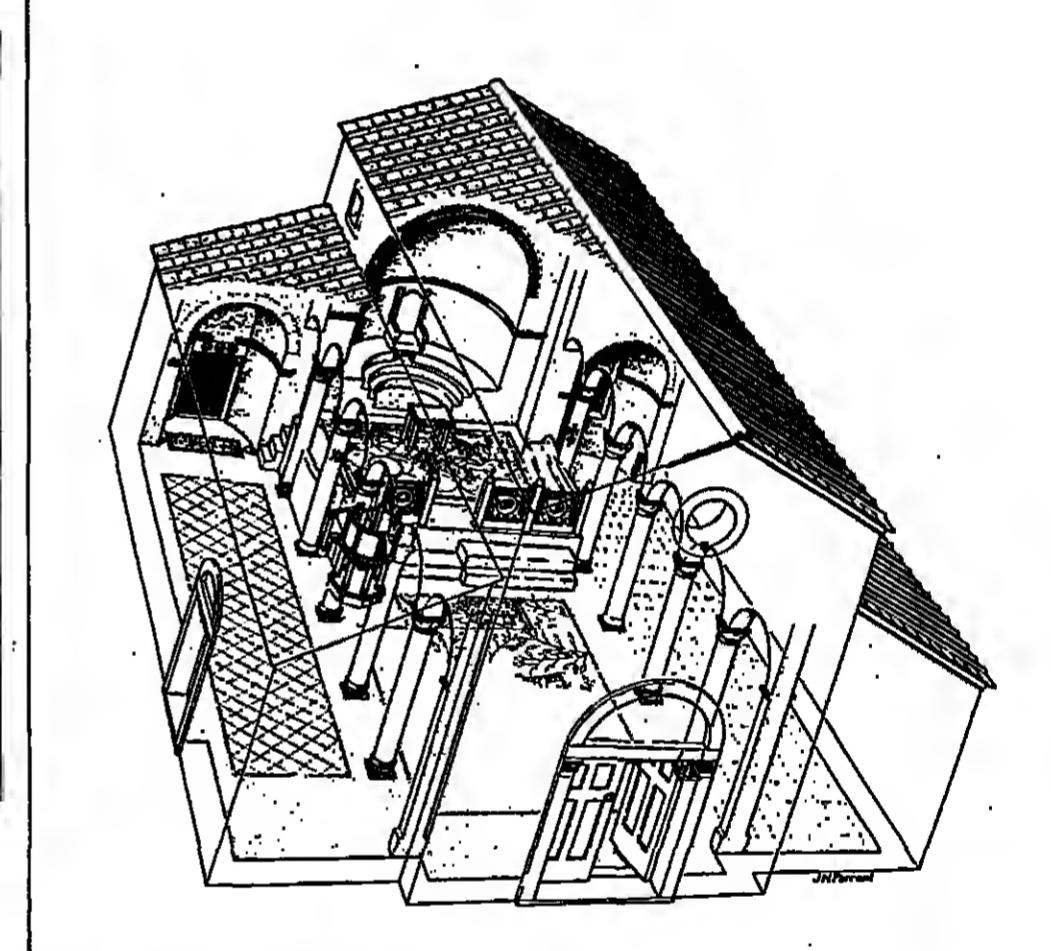
The complex of the Cave and Monastery of St. Lot is now being developed into a touristic site, and a small road and stepped pathway that have been built provide easier access to the site.

The archaeological work at the site has been sponsored by the British Museum, in cooperation with the Jordanian Department of Antiquities, and with the support of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities

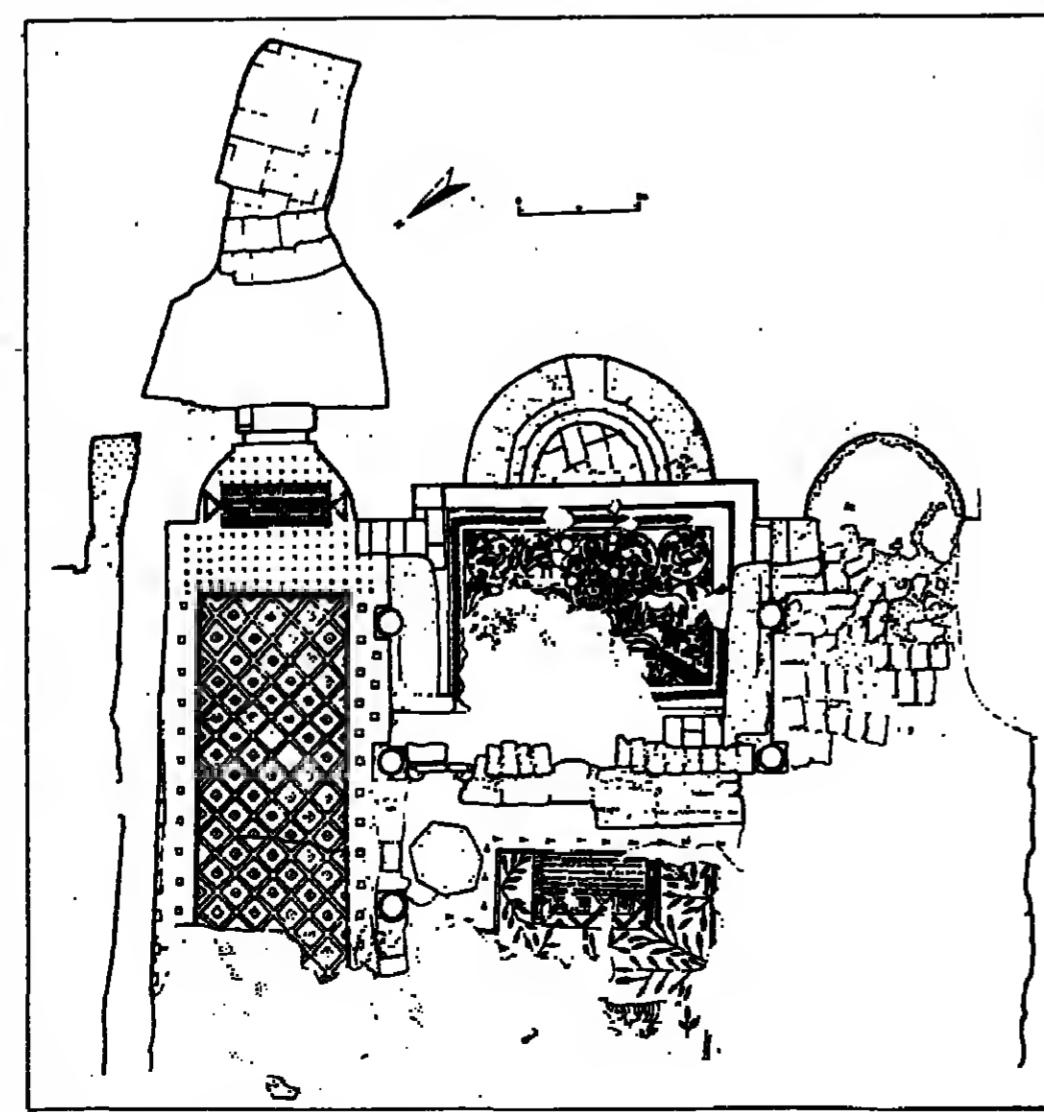
for the restoration and tourism services works. Additional support has come from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, the Palestine Exploration Fund, the Society for the Promotion of Byzantine Studies, the Society of Antiquaries of London, Biotrek, S.A., Aramex International Couriers, and the Jordan Valley Authority.



Aerial view of the monastery and cave of St. Lot, showing the church at centre, the cave opening at left and the reservoir at right



Reconstruction of the basilica of Lot



Floor plan of the complex

AMMAN ACADEMY

Khalda

We are now accepting student applications for the academic year 1994/95

daily except Fridays and public holidays 08:00 am - 02:00 pm - 04:00 pm - 06:00 pm

Quality Education

Reasonable Cost Superb Premises and Facilities Extra-Curricular Activities

Lawhi and GCE Highly qualified and experienced teaching staff

KINDERGARTEN and Grades 1 - 10

- ▲ Grades 11-12 in girls school and boys school will progressively open in 1995 and 1996 one grade each year
- ▲ Average number of students per class does not exceed 25
- ▲ Excellent student teacher ratio
- ▲ English starts in KG 1, French in Grade 3
- ▲ Transport is provided at cost on our private buses
- ▲ Special discount for siblings and excellence

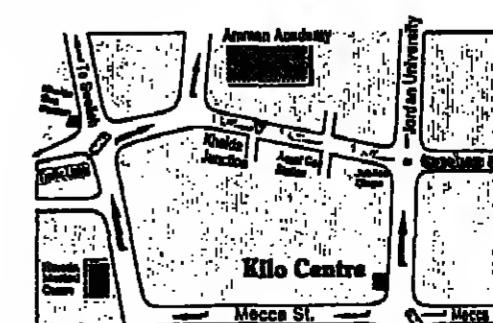
SECOND TO NONE

For further information contact : Secretary: Raeda Saghah, Olivia Akrouk
Administration: Munzer Fahoun, Diana Al-Afranji, Dr. Audeh Al-Halteh, Alla Snobar, Yousef Al-Nahhas

Tel. 832907 - 831760 - 836112 - 830227 / Fax 831760

Post Code 11821 P.O.Box 840 Amman, Jordan

Please ask for a copy of our brochure



JORDAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
COMPANY'S NAME	WEIGHTED	OPENING	CLOSING	PRICE	PRICE
	IN	IN	IN	IN	IN
ABRA BANK	520,180	399,500	200,000	300,500	
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	111,594	7,880	7,920	7,960	
MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK	24,785	2,400	2,400	2,420	
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	24,878	2,400	2,370	2,350	
THE BANK OF JORDAN	15,827	6,120	6,120	6,150	
ARAB JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	182,823	4,500	4,500	4,500	
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	41,823	4,500	4,500	4,000	
UNITED BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	1,980	5,210	5,200	5,200	
DEUTSCHE BANK	16,393	4,450	4,450	4,430	
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	2,150	4,830	4,830	4,760	
ARAB BANK FOR INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT	125,310	2,500	2,500	3,500	
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	53,643	3,950	3,720	3,900	
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE	1,720	3,100	3,100	3,000	
JORDANIAN RESEARCH POWER	50,413	3,150	3,300	2,900	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	1,152	1,150	1,150	1,150	
VEHICLES OWNERS FEDERATION	2,428	4,850	4,550	4,850	
JORDAN NATIONAL SPA COMPLEX	2,784	2,000	2,000	2,000	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	177,966	4,800	4,800	4,800	
PEPPER ENTERPRISE 4 INVESTMENTS LEASING	5,175	1,500	1,500	1,430	
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	1,024	1,150	1,150	1,150	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	16,024	1,150	1,150	1,200	
JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION / AL-AZ	4,466	18,000	15,800	15,300	
ARAB BANK FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	14,500	2,120	2,120	2,050	
JORDAN TURKISH 5 PARTNERS	3,234	30,000	31,000	31,000	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	158,967	3,070	3,060	3,060	
JORDAN TURKISH 5 PARTNERS	18,282	10,360	10,350	10,350	
MOULIN INDUSTRIES	1,078	2,140	2,150	2,150	
THE JORDAN WORKERS UNION	99,996	1,100	1,100	1,100	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	164,267	7,900	7,860	7,780	
JORDAN BANK	4,250	3,000	3,000	3,000	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	17,797	4,300	4,200	4,200	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	1,146	3,120	3,400	3,350	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	152,763	3,020	3,020	3,170	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	5,153	0,460	0,460	0,460	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	7,530	2,320	2,320	3,310	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	65,824	10,060	10,060	10,100	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	1,077	0,430	0,430	0,430	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	1,104	2,120	2,120	4,320	
JORDAN ROCKWARE INDUSTRIES	1,146	7,850	7,500	7,780	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	4,147	1,150	1,150	1,170	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	7,773	0,420	0,420	0,390	
NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	11,544	1,150	1,150	1,150	
JORDAN SOLVENT CHEMICALS	7,426	1,350	1,300	1,300	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	46,078	3,260	3,100	3,250	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	2,450	2,500	2,450	2,450	
JOHNSON CONTROLS INDUSTRY	332,221	4,980	5,990	4,920	
TOTAL	4,671,875				
NO. OF EXCHG. SOURCES IN PARALLEL MARKET	1	1993/94			
TRADED VOLUME IN THE PARALLEL MARKET	JD	400,000			

Financial Markets in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets	
Currency	New York Close Date 18/3/94
Sterling Pound	1.4905 1.4865**
Deutsche Mark	1.6968 1.7009**
Swiss Franc	1.4415 1.4422**
French Franc	5.7810 5.7939
Japanese Yen	106.12 106.51
European Currency Unit	1.1360 1.1350**
USD Per STG	
** European Opening 8:00 a.m. GMT	

Eurocurrency Interest Rates Date: 21/3/1994					
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS	
U.S. Dollar	5,3750	3,6250	3,8750	4,4375	
Sterling Pound	4,9375	4,9375	4,9375	5,0625	
Deutsche Mark	5,6875	5,5625	5,9750	5,2500	
Swiss Franc	3,7570	3,7500	3,6875		
French Franc	6,1250	6,0000	5,8750	5,7500	
Japanese Yen	8,0000	2,1250	2,1250	2,1875	
European Currency Unit	6,2500	6,1200	6,0000	5,8700	
Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.					

Precious Metals Date: 21/3/1994					
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	386.05	7.55	Silver	5.39	0.120
21 Karat					

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 21/3/1994					
Currency	Bid	Offer			
U.S. Dollar	0.7010	0.7030			
Sterling Pound	1.0420	1.0472			
Deutsche Mark	0.4122	0.4143			
Swiss Franc	0.4856	0.4882			
French Franc	0.1210	0.1216			
Japanese Yen	0.6589	0.6622			
Dutch Guilder	0.3670	0.3688			
Swedish Krona	0.0417	0.0419			
Italian Lira	0.0417	0.0419			
Belgian Franc	0.0417	0.0419			
Per 100					
Other Currencies					
Date: 21/3/1994					
Currency	Bid	Offer			
Bahraini Dinar	1.6380	1.8560			
Lebanese Lira	0.040520	0.041675			
Saudi Riyal	0.1866	0.1875			
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3250	2.3550			
Qatari Riyal	0.1903	0.1912			
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	0.2200			
Omani Riyal	1.7870	1.8140			
UAE Dirham	0.1903	0.1912			
Greek Drachma	0.2675	0.3155			
Cypriot Pound	1.3235	1.3870			
Per 100					

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES					
LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.					
U.S. \$1.00 costs					
Canadian dollar					
Deutschmarks					
Dutch guilders					
Swiss francs					
Belgian francs					

Seoul prepares for war games

SEOUL (R) — South Korea said Monday it would resume preparations for war games with the United States in the face of a renewed threat from defiant North Korea to walk out of a global pact limiting the spread of nuclear arms.

At an emergency cabinet meeting, President Kim Young-Sam said the timing for this year's "Team Spirit" manoeuvres would be decided when he returned from trips to Japan and China from March 24 to 30, a presidential spokesman said.

Team Spirit, regularly denounced by the North as a rehearsal for an invasion, was provisionally suspended just a few weeks ago as part of an effort to persuade North Korea to end its nuclear stand-off with the West.

Many analysts think North Korea's threat of attack is probably a bluff, but so little is known about the insular North Korean leadership that no officials want to call them.

South Korea's main opposition Democratic Party said it was not appropriate for Seoul and Washington to hastily decide to resume Team Spirit exercises and deploy the Patriots because the moves could provoke the North.

"To resolve the nuclear issue, the three parties — South and North Korea and the United States — should not give up their dialogue," the statement said.

Monday's North Korean statement said Pyongyang had abided by its side of a Feb. 25 agreement with Washington aimed at defusing the nuclear

inspections row. It said the high-level bilateral meeting should have taken place.

If Washington avoids talks with the North and resorts to strong-arm politics, the North will have no alternative but to abandon the non-proliferation treaty, it said.

The Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) scheduled a meeting that could decide to refer North Korea's intransigence to the U.N. Security Council for further action.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Sunday that Washington would seek U.N. action to force North Korea to open its nuclear facilities to inspection, predicting China, North Korea's main ally, would go along with the initiative.

North Korea insists its nuclear programme is only for peaceful purposes, but its rejection of full inspections has heightened suspicions that it is developing a nuclear arsenal.

President Bill Clinton, arriving in Miami for a meeting on health care and other issues, told reporters North Korea could still avoid U.N. sanctions and said the United States was not trying to escalate tensions between both countries.

"I'm not trying to ratchet up the tension. I'm just trying to work through this in a very deliberate but very firm and disciplined way," Mr. Clinton said. "We just have to see what they do now. We have been entirely reasonable and forthcoming."

Asked if sanctions could be

averted, Mr. Clinton said, "of course they can." He said the decision was up to North Korea, but added, "We also have some hope that they (North Korea) will go forward."

Speaking on the CBS Television programme "Face the Nation," Mr. Christopher said possible moves could include trade sanctions as part of an international effort to force compliance.

"We'll be seeking a resolution. I think we'll be preparing for trade sanctions, but exactly what happens in the U.N. we'll have to see what happens next week," Mr. Christopher said.

In Washington, top Republicans and Democrats said Washington must not let up the pressure. They also backed recent moves to provide South Korea with Patriot anti-missile batteries.

"I think if the United Nations Commission says tomorrow that they have not complied, we should go ahead with the Patriot missiles and do the military exercises with the South Koreans," House of Representatives majority leader Richard Gephardt said on the NBC programme "Meet the Press."

Senate Republican leader Bob Dole, of Kansas, told the same programme he supported deployment of the Patriot batteries, "and we may want to beef up our own forces there."

Mr. Gephardt, a Missouri Democrat, added that the United States should also deploy aircraft carriers in the region.



African National Congress (ANC) supporters flee tear gas, shot by South African soldiers to separate ANC and Inkatha supporters after an election rally held by the ANC at the Kwa-Mashu stadium (AFP photo)

De Klerk, Mandela discuss KwaZulu campaign violence

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — President F.W. De Klerk and ANC leader Nelson Mandela met with election officials Monday to discuss mounting conflict in the KwaZulu black homeland over South Africa's first all-race election.

Fighting between African National Congress (ANC) supporters and Zulu nationalists erupted Sunday in several parts of KwaZulu.

Police reported 29 deaths in scattered incidents, including several clashes between police and armed residents. But the police account of some incidents differed from versions provided by ANC officials and peace monitors interviewed by the Associated Press.

Zulu leaders want an autonomous Zulu state and have threatened to scuttle voting in KwaZulu, the traditional homeland located in Natal province on the east coast of South Africa.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. Mandela's ANC is

favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

choose its own leaders.

Mr. De Klerk's government is favoured to win and lead the first post-apartheid government.

Mr. De Klerk and Mr. Mandela insist that people must be free to campaign and vote throughout the nation in the April 26-28 election, the first in which the black majority will

Sports

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1994 9

Sato, Chouinard beat favourites at world figure skating championships

CHIBA, Japan (R) — Japan's Yuka Sato and Canadian Josee Chouinard upset the front-runners for the women's world figure skating title Monday by winning their qualifying groups.

The two, considered contenders for minor medals, proved themselves candidates for the major prize alongside favourites Chen Lu of China and European champion Surya Bonaly of France.

Chouinard, ninth at last month's Olympics, beat bronze medallist Chen into second place in the opening group.

Then in the second group Sato, fifth in Norway, defeated four-times European champion Bonaly, who finished a place above her last month.

Sato, a 21-year-old from Tokyo, survived a fall on a triple loop jump to get the top marks in her section, but said she was saving something for later in the week.

"I felt I didn't put everything into it today because if I did and then went into the real thing, it would be more difficult," she said.

"So I held back a bit. It's difficult psychologically. But I

tried."

"How do I feel about finishing first? It's too soon for rejoicing yet," she said.

A second attempt at a triple loop almost came off. But she two-footed the landing and could not do a combination she had planned.

She said she had not had enough time to be fully ready.

Bonaly's group was won in a fine comeback performance from Chouinard, whose routine included two excellent triple lutz jumps after she missed that jump twice during the Olympics.

"I feel better with myself but it's really hard to forgive myself for Norway," she said. "I had been landing the lutz so well for two weeks before that competition."

Chen continued to struggle against a foot injury and made mistakes on both her triple lutz attempts, failing on one of them and doubling out of the other.

Third in the last two world championships and again last month, she could struggle to improve her position here despite the absence of the two who heat her in Norway, Kerrigan and Olympic champion Oksana Baiul.

Tanja Szewczenko of Germany was third in the group, ahead of Russian Olga Markova.

America's 13-year-old Michelle Kwan was fifth on a mixed day for the two U.S. substitutes.

Kwan replaced Olympics silver medalist Nancy Kerrigan

and looked well-prepared but Nicole Bobek, called up only last week in place of Tonya Harding, fared badly and placed 13th in the other group, failing by one position to qualify for the main event.

She said she had not had enough time to be fully ready.

Bobek's group was won in a fine comeback performance from Chouinard, whose routine included two excellent triple lutz jumps after she missed that jump twice during the Olympics.

"I feel better with myself but it's really hard to forgive myself for Norway," she said. "I had been landing the lutz so well for two weeks before that competition."

Chen continued to struggle against a foot injury and made mistakes on both her triple lutz attempts, failing on one of them and doubling out of the other.

Third in the last two world championships and again last month, she could struggle to improve her position here despite the absence of the two who heat her in Norway, Kerrigan and Olympic champion Oksana Baiul.

Tanja Szewczenko of Germany was third in the group, ahead of Russian Olga Markova.

America's 13-year-old Michelle Kwan was fifth on a mixed day for the two U.S. substitutes.

Kwan replaced Olympics silver medalist Nancy Kerrigan

Schneider wins slalom; Tomba takes title

VAJL, Colo. (AP) — In an impromptu victory celebration, a member of the Italian team staff dumped a large bowl of ice over Alberto Tomba. A few hours later, Vreni Schneider dumped cold water over every one of her rivals.

Tomba's triumph came via a race cancellation Sunday, but Schneider's was achieved with the same relentless style that has been her trademark.

Schneider collected her third medal of the World Cup finals, winning the women's slalom by a huge margin.

It was the 30th World Cup slalom victory of Schneider's remarkable career. Paired with her 20 giant-slalom wins and one combined win, she raised her victory total to 51 — second only to the 62 of Austria's Annemarie Moser-Proell.

"It hasn't been as easy as it might have looked," Schneider said. "It's been a long season and I'm very tired, but today I said it's all or nothing. I was determined to throw myself down the mountain and see what happened. I wanted to finish the season on a winning note."

The men's slalom, meanwhile, was cancelled because of deteriorating course conditions.

The cancellation gave the men's slalom title to Tomba, the flamboyant Italian who came into the final event with a substantial lead in the standings over Thomas Stangassinger of Austria. Tomba led Stangassinger by 88 points (540-452) and could have finished as low as 15th and still won the title, even if Stangassinger had won the race.

Tomba, who gained the sixth

World Cup title of his career, agreed with the decision to cancel.

"The snow was way too soft," he said.

Asked if he felt he had backed into the title, he said, "Remember, I was in front by 88 points."

"I would like to have raced because I didn't ski well in the giant slalom (finishing 14th Saturday)," Tomba said. "But I won four slaloms and was sometimes second or third in the giant slalom, so it was a good season for me."

At Minnesota, Horace Grant scored 18 points to lead a balanced attack as the Chicago Bulls beat the Timberwolves 90-80, improving their perfect career dominance to 10-0.

Chicago has won five straight games and six of seven since a season-high five-game losing streak.

Scottie Pippen scored 14 points and grabbed 11 rebounds for the Bulls.

In Los Angeles, Dominique Wilkins scored 26 points and Elmore Spiller added 24 to power the Clippers past the Portland Trail Blazers 114-110.

The win was the Clippers' fifth in their last six games.

Horace Grant scored 28 to pace Portland, which has lost

Sampras overcomes ailment, Agassi to claim Lipton title

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida (R) — Pete Sampras, top seed and defending champion at the \$3.3 million Lipton Championships, overcame a stomach upset to beat Andre Agassi in the final and retain his crown.

Sampras, who came close to defaulting the match, beat Agassi 5-7, 6-3, 6-3, and collected the \$242,000 winner's share.

Agassi, on the comeback trail from injury, earned \$128,000 as runner-up. His world ranking from 31 to 19 and boosted his reputation for good sportsmanship by not insisting on a default.

Agassi, on the comeback trail from injury, earned \$128,000 as runner-up. His world ranking from 31 to 19 and boosted his reputation for good sportsmanship by not insisting on a default.

Sampras has now won four titles this year and is unbeaten in 12 of his last 13 finals. He is the first player to win back-to-back titles at the Lipton Championships.

Agassi has made an impressive comeback after a five-month layoff and wrist surgery in December. He won his first tournament back in Scottsdale, Arizona in February, and now has an 11-2 win-loss record for the year.

Against Agassi here, Sampras slowly worked his way into the match, ultimately delivering a virtuoso performance that included four aces in the final game.

Under the rules, Sampras should have been defaulted for failing to start the match on time but Agassi agreed to wait an hour to allow his opponent time to recover.

The decision may have cost Agassi the title, but he said afterwards that cancelling the match was out of the question.

"It wasn't too complicated a

decision," Agassi said. "If you can't beat the best player in the world you don't deserve to take the trophy. You certainly don't deserve it if you can't beat him when he's sick."

Sampras

appreciated

the gesture although it took him two hours and 14 minutes to close out the victory after a slew of double-faults marred his early progress.

"That showed a lot of class," he said of Agassi's decision.

"That's something I'll never forget."

Sampras

has now won four

titles this year and is unbeaten

in 12 of his last 13

finals. He is

the first player to

win back-to-

back titles at the

Lipton Cham-

pionships.

"When I woke up this morning I didn't think I was going to be able to play," said Sampras, who needed intravenous treatment. "I had IV's in me from 10:45 to 12:30."

During the warm-up, the

thought of not playing was still

in Sampras's mind.

"If I played four games and

couldn't go any longer, I was

going to quit," Sampras said.

"I just told myself to hang in there and as the match went I started to feel a little better."

Agassi said that the Sampras

he faced on court was very

different to the one he visited

in the doctor's office prior to

the match.

"He looked a lot worse than

he did in the third set,"

Agassi said.



Pete Sampras

Agassi said that Sampras's physical condition distracted him at first.

"I was really delayed in getting into it and that kind of bothered me," Agassi said.

"When at 5-2 I realised whether he's sick or not. I'm really getting an ass-kicking out there."

The man in black becomes the man in fuchsia

DALLAS (R) — Referees, traditionally the men in black, will wear fuchsia at the World Cup Cup.

The International Football Federation (FIFA) and sportswear makers Adidas unveiled the new uniforms for referees and linesmen at a seminar for match officials last week.

"This is certainly a crucial part in the test of their overall abilities," said Andreas Herren, press officer for FIFA, as groups of linesmen, sweating heavily, ran round a track.

Referees wearing numbered bibs milled around the in-field at Jesuit College awaiting their turn as official FIFA timekeepers made notes and studied lap times.

The fuchsia and silver uniforms will be the priority ones, with the yellow to be used only as a reserve.

"The man in black will not be in black any longer but he will still be the man in charge," said Blatter.

Modelled by slightly-embarrassed referees from Italy, France and Germany, the new look showed a move away from the stern black of the past to a brighter future.

Shorts remained traditionally dark but with coloured pocket inserts to match the white-collared shirts.

Adidas said in a statement that the change in style was "in keeping with the younger, fitter and more dynamic image projected by this year's tournament officials."

FIFA, determined to promote attacking play and improve refereeing standards, has introduced new age limits and fitness tests for referees and linesmen at the World Cup.

The 24-nation tournament kicks off in Chicago June 17 with a match between champions Germany and Bolivia. It ends in a showpiece final at

Germans fear European hooligan battle at Berlin

BONN (R) — Berlin soccer officials, whose headquarters were attacked Monday, said they feared a European battle between hooligans from England, France and the Netherlands at the game. "The damage is in thousands of marks. We have to assume that the attack came from left-wing groups but the police are looking into it," Gantz said.

Montant opponents of the friendly, which is due to take place on the anniversary of Hitler's birthday April 20, smashed windows and threw stink bombs into the Berlin Soccer Federation's office during the night.

Security chief Reiner Gantz said the attack had probably come from left-wing groups campaigning against the match. But he feared a

match was originally moved to Berlin from Hamburg because of fears of clashes between right and left-wing extremists.

AL SAFEER STORES

Tempting prices in cash and easy instalments

Beech and oak wood

Um Al Summaq
Al Shammal
Awwad
Al Nueimat
Shopping
Centre
Tel.:
824049
606486



JOB OPPORTUNITY

A leading Jordanian Bank is seeking for Ambitious, self motivated Jordanian employees to join a well established team to fulfill the following vacancies:

1- HEAD OF DEPARTMENTS with minimum 5 years experience in Marketing or Investment.

2- MARKETING . Investment and Public Relations employees with 2 years experience.

All Applicants should have a Bachelor Degree in Marketing, Finance or a related discipline, good command of English, can use pc's MBA degree is preferable.

US / UK graduates will be considered regardless their experience level.

All applications should be sent to:

MARKETING AND INVESTMENT DEPT.

MANAGER
P.O.BOX. 715
Amman 11118 Jordan

International Community School (The British Curriculum School in Amman)

The International Community School, in Khilda, requires the following staff from September 1994:

Primary teacher
Key Stage 2/Junior Co-ordinator
Part-time Music teacher

The successful applicants must have full British, or equivalent, teaching qualifications; be reflective, caring, highly motivated and preferably have working knowledge of the National Curriculum. The Junior Co-ordinator should have experience of leading & supporting colleagues. Interested candidates should contact the School Office to arrange a visit.

Tel: 841070 Fax: 847109

CONCORD '1'
DEMOLITION MAN
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30
CONCORD '2'
ACCIDENTAL HERO
Shows: 12:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:15

AMMOON THEATRE
Nabil Al Mashini Theatre
Opening Soon
A political comedy
Forbidden x Forbidden

Tel: 675571
Nabil & Hisham's

NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Armed Forces

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a message to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Abdul Hafez Mirai congratulating him and the Armed Forces over the 26th anniversary of Al Karamah Battle. King Hussein wished the Armed Forces personnel good luck and success in performing their duties, imploring God to protect them and to grant Jordan victory.

Saudis to give Palestinians \$20m

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia has said it will pay \$20 million to help Palestinians set up development, health care and social facilities in the Israeli occupied territories. The official Saudi Press Agency on Sunday night quoted Finance and Economy Minister Mohammad Abul Khalil as saying the payment will be made in coordination with the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). An UNRWA team is expected soon in the kingdom to discuss the arrangements. SPA said the \$20 million was part of Saudi pledges to give Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip \$100 million to help them set up a self-rule authority.

'Iranian plane could have been spying'

MOSCOW (R) — An Iranian transport plane which crashed in the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, killing all 32 people aboard, could have been on a spying mission, ITAR-TASS news agency quoted Russian military experts as saying on Monday. The experts said no one had answered the main question as to why the C-130 Hercules, carrying relatives of Iranian embassy staff, left its planned route and flew over Karabakh. The plane crashed on Thursday near the Karabakh capital Stepanakert. "What was it that made the Iranian pilots, who knew it was dangerous to fly at medium altitude above a battleground, head for Stepanakert and subsequently for the strategically important Lachin corridor?" the agency said. TASS also quoted "competent sources" as saying the 19-strong crew was exceptionally large for a plane that size.

Egypt police kill 6 suspects

ASSIUT (AP) — Police killed six suspected militants in troubled Assiut province Monday in a running battle that began with an attack the night before that left four police dead. The battles stepped up the almost daily violence in the province that is a stronghold of radicals trying to topple Egypt's secular government and impose strict Islamic rule on the country. Security sources said Interior Minister Hassan Al Alf, the country's top policeman, on Monday ordered 3,000 officers and men from Cairo into Assiut to take over three of its most violence-ridden towns. On Sunday, four policemen and two extremist suspects were killed in separate confrontations in the village of Sidfa, near Abu Tig where Monday's incident erupted. Both villages are south of the provincial capital, Assiut.

Kuwait denies reported Iraqi offer

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait Monday denied that Iraq had offered to swap hundreds of Kuwaiti prisoners for 11 Iraqis on trial here for allegedly plotting to kill former President George Bush. The minister of state for cabinet affairs, Abdul Aziz Al Dakheel, told Al Arabi daily the reported exchange offer was a "manoeuvre by Baghdad's ruling regime" aimed at creating confusion. An aide confirmed his denial. "The (prisoners) are not up for haggling or barter," Mr. Dakheel told the newspaper. "Kuwait considers them its most important issue and will spare no means in securing their return."

Bosphorus traffic back to normal

ISTANBUL (R) — Navigation through Istanbul's Bosphorus waterway returned to normal on Monday, eight days after it was disrupted by a tanker collision and fire, officials said. "The first oil tanker passed through last night," a pilotage authority official said. "As of this morning (Monday), traffic is back to normal both ways." He said 248 ships had transited the 30-kilometre long strait since it reopened on Friday.

Rafsanjani calls on exiles to return

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's President Hashemi Rafsanjani, fighting an uphill battle with a depressed economy worsened by a dearth of expertise, has appealed to Iranians abroad to return home with their skills. In a message on the Iranian new year which began Sunday, Mr. Rafsanjani called on his countrymen abroad to "strengthen their relations with home." He said Iranians living outside the country were unaware of Iran's political, social and economic strides since the 1979 Islamic revolution. The Islamic Republic News Agency said his message expressed hope that Iranians would make their judgements about Iran based on "more information and will volunteer to offer their services at this time of reconstruction."

Somali meeting set for today

NAIROBI (R) — Somali faction leaders will hold their delayed public reconciliation meeting on Tuesday — or the United Nations will refuse to pay their hotel bills, a U.N. spokesman said on Monday. George Bennett, spokesman for the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM), said the meeting would be held on Tuesday attended by rivals Mohammad Farah Aideed and self-styled President Ali Mahdi Mohammad. "Somali faction leaders had not reached agreement on details of their declaration. That is why there was a delay from Sunday," Mr. Bennett told a news briefing. "If the factions do not make their declaration tomorrow, they can be sure the U.N. will not fund their stay in Nairobi any longer," he added. The factions have been meeting for more than a week. Mr. Bennett said UNOSOM was paying hotel bills for some 60 of the Somali representatives in Nairobi but they did not include General Aideed and his delegation which arrived in Nairobi in December.

Harding bodyguard, 2 others indicted

PORLTAND (R) — A grand jury Monday indicted figure skater Tonya Harding's former bodyguard and two other men on charges stemming from the Jan. 6 attack on her rival Nancy Kerrigan. The indictment contends that Harding and her former husband Jeff Gillooly, who have pleaded guilty in plea bargains, also were involved in the plot to injure Kerrigan and knock her out of the U.S. figure skating championships.

German minister demands expulsion of Kurds

BONN (R) — German Interior Minister Manfred Kanther on Monday urged regional authorities to expel militant Kurds who took part in violent demonstrations at the weekend in support of their homeland's independence from Turkey. But Kurdish groups in Berlin, Nuremberg and Hamburg announced further demonstrations on Monday to keep up their protest against Turkey's use of force against separatists. Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel sent a telegram to Ankara asking Turkish authorities to guarantee freedom of movement for observers after a German group trying to monitor human rights in the Kurdish region was detained. The group was expected back on Monday after being harassed and detained by security forces. Benni's Foreign Ministry said it had received assurances that this would not happen again. On Sunday, some 6,000 Kurds rampaged through the southern German town of Augsburg hurling firebombs and blockaded a motorway with buses and fires for more hours after authorities barred them from holding a rally which had been declared illegal.

Palestinian activists form rights panel

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Fearful of the emergence of a repressive Palestinian state, a group of prominent writers, political activists and intellectuals are striving to create an ombudsman to ensure the establishment of a democratic entity.

Founders of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens Rights (PICCR) say it will be based in Jerusalem.

"Many of the members are very well known among Palestinians in the occupied territories and in the diaspora for their experience and knowledge well as for their views regarding the Palestinian leadership. Palestinian peace delegation spokesman Hanan Ashrawi and PLO Executive Committee member Mahmoud Darwish, for example, both resigned in protest against the leadership's policy in the Arab-Israeli peace talks," Dr. Abdul Rahman pointed out. Most of the remaining members are prominent professors, writers, or lawyers and are known for their stands, he said.

Dr. Abdul Rahman expects the commission to have protection and support from the Palestinian people and from other human rights organizations. The commission also seeks to broaden the scope of cooperation and coordination among all human rights organizations and institutions in the occupied territories, he said. The commission, which will have financial and administrative independence, will only accept donations and contributions from human rights organizations that are known for their solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The commission will also be entrusted with the task of raising awareness among the public of their rights and duties in their future state. Although Dr. Abdul Rahman confirms that they will also defend Palestinian rights in the diaspora, the commission's work will be firstly confined to the work of the Palestinian national authority to ensure no abuse of authority or misuse of public funds.

There is a certain kind of entity that is coming to birth whether we like it or not," Dr. Abdul Rahman said during a seminar Sunday at the Jordan Writers Association. "The founding board of commissioners will continue to lead the organization until the elected Palestinian legislative council establishes a permanent board.

The membership of the board of commissioners include Dr. Abdul Rahman, Dr. Ibrahim Abu Lughod, Dr. Mamoud Al Aker, Dr. Lamis Alami, Dr. Naseer Aruri, Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, Mr. Fathi Azzam, Ms. Hanan Bakri, Mr. Mr.

Man confesses to killing boy

(Continued from page 1)

was arrested and no one knows their whereabouts, the woman said.

Brig. Ouran told the press conference that police traced the child's movements on that day, and concluded that M.A.T. was the main suspect.

"At present they (the Israelis) are considered as colonialist settlers," Dr. Abdul Rahman told the Jordan Times.

"Besides, the commission is established on the assumption that they (settlers) are no longer there."

"But if there were real peace, then there would be room for cooperation as it would be the case in all the other domains, economic, political, etc.," Dr. Abdul Rahman said.

The film depicts an innocent and devout Muslim villager in Cairo recruited by an extremist group and asked to carry out attacks. The villager, played by Imam, believes the whole society is against Islamic teachings and attacks video shops, tourist buses and a jewelry store.

Escaping from an attack he is hit and injured in an accident involving a car driven by a young woman who takes him home and nurses him, gradually convincing him to reconsider his beliefs before he meets his end at the hands of other members of his group.

In essence, it seeks to depict militant Islamic leaders as opportunists who interpret Islamic teachings the way that suits them with little regard for human life or culture.

She said that "Abu Ziad" was "the last person any one would suspect of such a heinous crime."

"I can't believe that a man of his age would commit such a horrible and inhuman crime," said the mother.

She said there was no hostility between the two families, and the suspect always treated her child in a nice way.

"He always asked my son to run him some errands," the woman said. "Only half-an-hour before Lo'ai disappeared, Abu Ziad had asked him to take out garbage."

The suspect's family left the neighbourhood after he

Israel and PLO apart

(Continued from page 1)

dozens of worshippers at Hebron's Ibrahim Mosque.

Mr. Arafat, in a Belgian newspaper interview, urged the rapid application of a U.N. Security Council decision over the protection of Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Mr. Arafat told Le Soir the Palestinians planned to talk with the United States and Russia, co-sponsors of the Middle East peace process, Europe and others on how to put the resolution into force on the ground.

"And the earlier the better," he said.

He said an international protection force had to be negotiated with Israel, Russia and the U.S. It should be "lightly armed," he said.

Mr. Arafat had summoned the 12 remaining members of the Executive Committee to a meeting in Tunis, as well as major trade unions, endorsed Mr. Ben Ali.



DELIGHT: An Israeli soldier enjoys the way his colleagues launch tear-gas at Palestinians protesters in Bethlehem's Manger Square (AFP photo)

COLUMN 10

Suspicious hole near U.K. palace sparks alert

LONDON (R) — Anti-terrorist officers were called to investigate a suspicious hole in the ground near Queen Elizabeth's Windsor Castle but found no evidence to suggest it was a mortar bomb launch site, British police said Monday. A local resident spotted the 30 inch (76-cm)-deep hole five days ago on an island in the River Thames less than one mile (around one km) from the royal palace west of London. The three foot-square (0.9 metre-square) hole raised police suspicions because it was carefully dug and about the size to house mortars of the kind used in a recent series of Irish Republican Army attacks on London's Heathrow Airport. But police said they found no evidence of any guerrilla activity. "Nothing was found to link this hole with the IRA or any other terrorist group, but in the current climate of attacks on Heathrow Airport, we cannot take any chances," said Inspector Jim Jones of the Thames Valley Police. "Putting it plainly, we do not know if this hole was dug deliberately as a site to fire missiles at Windsor Castle, or whether it was a prank." A spokesman for London's Scotland Yard Police Headquarters, which coordinates anti-guerrilla operations, dismissed the find as "completely insignificant."

A local columnist commented: "The aim of the movie is to damage Egypt's Islamic groups by portraying its members as drunkards, thieves, traitors and womenizers."

Hamzeh Mansour, spokesman for the IAF bloc in parliament, was quoted as saying by the Associated Press that the film, was produced upon the instigation of a "neighbouring Arab government."

Imam, the star of the movie, has taken a strong stand against Muslim extremists in Egypt, particularly their belief that mainstream cinema and arts are against Islamic teachings.

Authorities in the north Lebanese town of Tripoli, a stronghold of that country's Muslim Brotherhood, banned the movie after a local leader complained that it tarnished the image of Islam.

Many Jordanians who saw the movie were of the opinion that the movie was either a convincing theme with credibility or any artistic value.

"It is as if the Egyptian government itself produced the film with the sole aim of discrediting and tarnishing the image of Islamic groups in the country," said a young Jordanian who described himself as a secular Muslim.

"It underestimates the intelligence of viewers," she added.

The ban on the film is also applicable to its video cassette versions, which have yet to hit the market.

Israeli troops kill blind Gazan

(Continued from page 1)

warned security officials to be on alert from extremist acts by Jews at the mosque, a government source confirmed Monday.

The report came in the third week of an independent state inquiry into the massacre and followed testimony from army officials that they were not prepared for an act of terror by

the settlers.

Mr. Jaber said he had only read columns critical of the movie in the local press and he wanted to see the film for

himself but decided against it since he felt that "it would not be right on my part to do so."

"The film had purposes to serve in Egypt, given the confrontation between the regime and some Islamic groups," Mr. Jaber said. "But it has no purpose to serve in Jordan, where there is no such problem and the political system is very much streamlined."

Dr. Anani said his decision to suspend the screening of the film stemmed mainly from considerations that it could draw violent reactions from extremists.

"They have put bombs in theatres and we did not want that to happen again," Dr.

Anani told the Jordan Times, referring to two explosions in January and February at movie houses showing pornographic films and the discovery of explosives in at least two other theatres.

People who saw the movie at the Plaza said theatre security was tight and, although there was no body search, bags carried by men were not allowed inside the movie house.

Dr. Anani said he was planning to see "The Terrorist" for himself before reaching a final decision.

Abdul Azziz Jaber, a member of the Islamic Action Front (IAF) and an Amman First District deputy in the Lower House of Parliament, said he had lodged a verbal protest against the movie with the head of the Film Censorship Council, Mohammad Amin, who also heads the Press and Publications Department of the Ministry of Information.

"The film damages the image of Islam and Islamic teachings," Mr. Jaber told the Jordan Times. "It is far from the realities of Islam and Islamic principles and I brought it to the attention of the authorities."

Mr. Jaber said he had only read columns critical of the movie in the local press and he wanted to see the film for

himself but decided against it since he felt that "it would not be right on my part to do so."

"The film had purposes to serve in Egypt, given the confrontation between the regime and some Islamic groups," Mr. Jaber said. "But it has no purpose to serve in Jordan, where there is no such problem and the political system is very much streamlined."

Dr. Anani said his decision to suspend the screening of the film stemmed mainly from considerations that it could draw violent reactions from extremists.

"They have put bombs in theatres and we did not want that to happen again," Dr.

Anani told the Jordan Times, referring to two explosions in January and February at movie houses showing pornographic films and the discovery of explosives in at least two other theatres.

People who saw the movie at the Plaza said theatre security was tight and, although there was no body search, bags carried by men were not allowed inside the movie house.

Dr. Anani said he was planning to see "The Terrorist" for himself before reaching a final decision.

Abdul Azziz Jaber, a member of the Islamic Action Front (IAF) and an Amman First District deputy in the Lower House of Parliament, said he had lodged a verbal protest against the movie with the head of the Film Censorship Council, Mohammad Amin, who also heads the Press and Publications Department of the Ministry of Information.

"The film damages the image of Islam and Islamic teachings," Mr. Jaber told the Jordan Times. "It is far from the realities of Islam and Islamic principles and I brought it to the attention of the authorities."

Mr. Jaber said he had only read columns critical of the movie in the local press and he wanted to see the film for

himself but decided against it since he felt that "it would not be right on my part to do so."

"The film had purposes to serve in Egypt, given the confrontation between the regime and some Islamic groups," Mr. Jaber said. "But it has no purpose to serve in Jordan, where there is no such problem and the political system is very much streamlined."

Dr. Anani said his decision to suspend the screening of the film stemmed mainly from considerations that it could draw violent reactions from extremists.

"They have put bombs in theatres and we did not want that to happen again," Dr.

Anani told the Jordan Times, referring to two explosions in January and February at movie houses showing pornographic films and the discovery of explosives in at least two other theatres.

People who saw the movie at the Plaza said theatre security was tight and, although there was no body search, bags carried by men were not allowed inside the movie house.

Dr. Anani said he was planning to see "The Terrorist" for himself before reaching a final decision.

Abdul Azziz Jaber, a member of the Islamic Action Front (IAF) and an Amman First District deputy in the Lower House of Parliament, said he had lodged a verbal protest against the movie with the head of the Film Censorship Council, Mohammad Amin, who also heads the Press and Publications Department of the Ministry of Information.

"The film damages the image of Islam and Islamic teachings," Mr. Jaber told the Jordan Times. "It is far from the realities of Islam and Islamic principles and I brought it to the attention of the authorities."

Mr. Jaber said he had only read columns critical of the movie in the local press and he wanted to see the film for

himself but decided against it since he felt that "it would not be right on my part to do so."

"The film had purposes to serve in Egypt, given the confrontation between the regime and some Islamic groups," Mr. Jaber said. "But it has no purpose to serve in Jordan, where there is no such problem and the political system